



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**

Omaha District

PUBLIC NOTICE

Application No: 2004-10327

Applicant: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District

Waterway: Missouri River (Tyson Bend)

Issue Date: March 19, 2004

Expiration Date: April 8, 2004

21 DAY NOTICE

Reply To:

NEBRASKA REGULATORY OFFICE – WEHRSPANN

8901 SOUTH 154TH STREET, SUITE 1, OMAHA, NEBRASKA 68138-3621

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE: This public notice is issued jointly by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District, and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, 502 E 9th Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319. They will review the proposed project for state certification in accordance with the provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. IDNR hereby incorporate this public notice as its own public notice and procedures by reference thereto. For the purposes of IDNR, their public notice will expire 30 days from the issue date shown above.

AUTHORITY: Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1344).

APPLICANT: Mr. John Remus, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 106 South 15th Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68102.

PROJECT LOCATION: The project is located along the left bank of the Missouri River at river mile 653.0, in Sections 18 and 19, Township 79 North, Range 45 West, Harrison County, Iowa.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project consists of dredging 160,000 cubic yards of material from the backwater area located on state of Iowa land. The maximum dredge cut will be 5 feet below the water surface when the Missouri River stage at Blair, Nebraska is 15.0 feet (approximately 33,000 cfs). The side slopes will be the angle of repose of the soil. The material will be dredged with a hydraulic dredge and the material will be discharged into the Missouri River. The dredge material will be primarily sand with some silts and clays.

DREDGING SCHEDULE:

- a. Dredging will occur only when Missouri River discharges are greater than 25,000 cfs, which corresponds to a Blair, Nebraska gage of 12.85 feet. Discharges are typically greater than 25,000 cfs from 1 April to 30 November.

- b. The end of the discharge pipe will be submerged at a location in the water column where mixing and integration into the bed load will occur quickly. Studies and construction experience for other projects (California Bend, Nebraska and Hidden Lake/Great Marsh) indicate that suspending the discharge 4 to 6 feet off the bottom of the river will provide for adequate entrainment of the dredge material.
- c. The dredge discharge schedule will be proportional to the river discharge as per the table below. This will minimize the potential for sediment build-up in the vicinity of the discharge pipe.

Dredge Discharge, GPM (water and sediment)	Missouri River at Blair, Nebraska	
	Discharge (cfs)	Stage (feet)
8,000	22,300	11.4
12,000	33,450	15.6
16,000	44,600	17.9
20,000	55,750	19.9
24,000	66,850	21.5

PROJECT PURPOSE: The purpose of the project is to create between 20 and 25 acres of Pallid Sturgeon habitat. The Pallid Sturgeon is an endangered species whose habitat was severely depleted by the construction of the Missouri River Streambank Stabilization and Navigation Project.

SPECIAL AQUATIC SITES: No special aquatic sites will be impacted by this project. All dredged material will be discharged back into the Missouri River.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: The Corps of Engineers, Omaha District will comply with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and 36 CFR 800. We have checked the National Register of Historic Places and its current supplements and no property listed or proposed for listing in the Register is located in the project area. This is the extent of our knowledge about historic properties in the permit area at this time. However, we will evaluate input by the State Historic Preservation Officer and the public in response to this public notice, and may require a reconnaissance survey of the project area to check for unknown historic or prehistoric properties, if warranted.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: Pursuant to the Endangered Species Act, a preliminary determination has been made that the described work will not affect species designated as threatened or endangered or adversely affect critical habitat. In order to complete our evaluation of this activity, comments are solicited from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other interested agencies and individuals.

FLOODPLAIN: This activity is being reviewed in accordance with Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management, which discourages direct or indirect support of floodplain development whenever there is a practicable alternative. By this notice, comments are requested from individuals

and agencies that believe the described work will adversely impact the floodplain.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1341) requires that all discharges of fill material must be certified by the appropriate state agency as complying with applicable effluent limitations and water quality standards. This public notice serves as an application to the state in which the discharge site is located for certification of the discharge. The discharge must be certified before a Department of the Army permit can be issued. Certification, if issued, expresses the state's opinion that the discharge will not violate applicable water quality standards.

PUBLIC INTEREST REVIEW: The decision whether to issue the Corps' permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts including cumulative impacts of the proposed/completed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against their reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. In addition, the evaluation of the impact of the work on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 C.F.R. Part 230).

COMMENTS: The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public, Federal, State, and Local agencies and officials, Indian Tribes and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this project. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the activity.

Anyone whose interests may be affected by the proposed/completed work is invited to submit favorable or unfavorable written comments to the Nebraska Regulatory Office – Wehrspann, 8901 South 154th Street, Suite 1, Omaha, NE 68138-3621. The District Engineer is particularly interested in receiving comments related to the proposal's probable impacts on the affected aquatic system's functional values, cumulative and secondary effects and endangered species. All comments received will be considered public information; copies of all comments, including names and addresses of commentors, may be provided to the applicant unless confidentiality is requested. Comments must be submitted on or before the expiration date (located at the top of the first page) of this notice to be considered in the subsequent actions on this application.

PUBLIC HEARING: Before the expiration date of this notice, anyone may request, in writing, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests shall specifically state the reason(s) for holding a public hearing. If the District Engineer determines that the information received in response to this notice is inadequate for thorough evaluation, a public hearing may be warranted. If a public hearing is warranted, interested parties will be notified of the time, date, and location.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Additional information about this application may be obtained by writing to Matt Wray at the address shown on page one or by calling him at (402) 896-0896. You can also e-mail him at matt.t.wray@usace.army.mil.

REQUEST TO POSTMASTERS: Please post this notice conspicuously and continuously until the expiration date specified at the top of page one.

NOTICE TO EDITORS: This notice is provided as background information for your use in formatting news stories. This notice is not a contract for classified display advertising.